Decline in the Prices of Raw Jute

1579. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is sharp decline in prices of raw jute in the domestic market which has adversely affected the Jute growers of West Bengal, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to stabilise the Jute prices in the domestic market and save the Jute growers from ruin ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (c) The prices of raw jute are ruling near support levels at present. Government have taken a number of measures to arrest the decline in prices of raw jute including, inter alia, directing Jute Corporation of India to procure the entire quantity of raw jute that is offered for sale at Minimum Support Price; release of a quota for the export of 1.5 lakh bales of raw jute to GCA countries and instructions to jute mills to raise their inventories to cater to their requirements of consumption for ten weeks. JCI has, in association with its agents, purchased 14,04,900 quintals of raw jute upto 23-11-92 during the 1992-93 jute season in order to protect the interests of the jute growing farmers.

Closure of Textile Mills in Madhya Pradesh

1580. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many cotton textile Mills in Madhya Pradesh have been closed indefinitely and equal number of Cotton Textile Mills, which are incurring losses are likely to be closed down in the near future rendering a number of workers jobless;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what action Government have taken for reviving the closed Mills and preventing the closure of other cotton Textile Mills in the State; and

(d) whether Government propose to constitute an Advisory Committee in Madhya Pradesh to revive the closed cotton Textile Mills and save other Mills from closure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (b) Six cotton/man-made fibre textile mills in private sector in Madhya Pradesh are reportedly closed as on 30th September, 1992. As regards the loss-incurring mills, it is not possible to say how many mills may be closed by their owners. However, the details of the closed mills along with the workers affected is given in the statement enclosed [*See* below].

(c) Government have set up a Nodal Agency/Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to evolve and manage Rehabilitation Package in respect of sick/closed textile mills. Textile Modernisation Fund has been established to meet the modernisation needs of the mills.

(d) No, Sir.

Sl. No.	Name of the Mill	Date of closure	Workers affected
1.	Bilaspur Spg. Mills and Industries Ltd.	14-5-91	1226
2.	Hope Textiles Unit No. 2	6-6-86	268
3	Hope Textile Unit No. 1	6-6-86	357
4.	Binod Mills Co. Ltd.	18-9-91	3249
5	Bimal Mills	18-9-91	1244
6.	Hukamchand Mills Ltd	9-12-91	5659